

CH - 308
HART-DIGGS HOUSE
Chicamuxen
Private

circa 1895

The original 1 1/2-story block of this larger frame house was probably built in 1895 when the property was purchased by Winter Hart, a black farmer. Nearby lived William Jordan, an ex-slave who had become a landowning farmer and the builder of Jordan Chapel (see CH-309). Jordan's daughter Rachel married Parker Diggs, and together they bought this farm in 1919 and enlarged the house. The Diggs family members, especially son William, are knowledgeable sources for a rich family history which stretches back for generations.

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

MAGI #09C 305604

INVENTORY FORM FOR STATE HISTORIC SITES SURVEY

1 NAME

HISTORIC

THE HART-DIGGS HOUSE

AND/OR COMMON

2 LOCATION

STREET & NUMBER

6 miles north of Jct Rt. 6 and Rt. 224 on the south
side of Rt. 224. (Mason Springs Chicamuxen Road)

CITY, TOWN

Chicamuxen

☒ VICINITY OF Rison

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT

16

STATE

Md.

COUNTY

Charles

3 CLASSIFICATION

CATEGORY

☐ DISTRICT
☐ BUILDING(S)
☐ STRUCTURE
☐ SITE
☐ OBJECT

OWNERSHIP

☐ PUBLIC
☐ PRIVATE
☐ BOTH
PUBLIC ACQUISITION
☐ IN PROCESS
☐ BEING CONSIDERED

STATUS

☐ OCCUPIED
☐ UNOCCUPIED
☐ WORK IN PROGRESS
ACCESSIBLE
☐ YES: RESTRICTED
☐ YES: UNRESTRICTED
☐ NO

PRESENT USE

☐ AGRICULTURE ☐ MUSEUM
☐ COMMERCIAL ☐ PARK
☐ EDUCATIONAL ☐ PRIVATE RESIDENCE
☐ ENTERTAINMENT ☐ RELIGIOUS
☐ GOVERNMENT ☐ SCIENTIFIC
☐ INDUSTRIAL ☐ TRANSPORTATION
☐ MILITARY ☐ OTHER

4 OWNER OF PROPERTY

NAME

Mrs. Rachel Diggs

Telephone #: 301-743-3391

STREET & NUMBER

Rt. 224

CITY, TOWN

Rison

☒ VICINITY OFSTATE, zip code
Md.**5 LOCATION OF LEGAL DESCRIPTION**

COURTHOUSE.
 REGISTRY OF DEEDS, ETC.

Charles County Courthouse

Liber #: 35

Folio #: 616

STREET & NUMBER

CITY, TOWN

STATE

6 REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS

TITLE

NONE

DATE

☐ FEDERAL ☐ STATE ☐ COUNTY ☐ LOCAL

DEPOSITORY FOR
 SURVEY RECORDS

CITY, TOWN

STATE

7 DESCRIPTION

CONDITION		CHECK ONE	CHECK ONE
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> EXCELLENT	<input type="checkbox"/> DETERIORATED	<input type="checkbox"/> UNALTERED	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ORIGINAL SITE
<input type="checkbox"/> GOOD	<input type="checkbox"/> RUINS	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ALTERED	<input type="checkbox"/> MOVED DATE _____
<input type="checkbox"/> FAIR	<input type="checkbox"/> UNEXPOSED		

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

According to Mrs. Rachel Digges, the present lowner and occupant of the house, and to her son William, she and her husband Park purchased this house in 1919 or 1920 from Winter Hart, the original owner and builder. At that time it was considerably smaller and simpler in design: one room downstairs, one room upstairs, with a shed kitchen attached to the rear length (west). A brick chimney ascended the exterior of the northern gable end. Today this original block is the southermost section. The original facade consisted of two bays, one window and a door. According to the Digges, the house was constructed of a post and beam frame, the members fastened with pegs, and sheathed with over-lapping weatherboards. The downstairs room was warmed by an open fireplace. In the corner west of it, an enclosed stairway led to the upstairs chamber which was unheated. Cooking was done over a wood burni^Ng stove in the kitchen. The several two story additions that the Digges have attached to the original structure provide more personal space for their family, ^{they} have more than doubled the size of Hart's house, and have al^omost completely disguised it.

8 SIGNIFICANCE

PERIOD		AREAS OF SIGNIFICANCE -- CHECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW			
<input type="checkbox"/> PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNITY PLANNING	<input type="checkbox"/> LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> RELIGION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1400-1499	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	<input type="checkbox"/> CONSERVATION	<input type="checkbox"/> LAW	<input type="checkbox"/> SCIENCE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1500-1599	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> AGRICULTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> ECONOMICS	<input type="checkbox"/> LITERATURE	<input type="checkbox"/> SCULPTURE	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1600-1699	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> ARCHITECTURE	<input type="checkbox"/> EDUCATION	<input type="checkbox"/> MILITARY	<input type="checkbox"/> SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1700-1799	<input type="checkbox"/> ART	<input type="checkbox"/> ENGINEERING	<input type="checkbox"/> MUSIC	<input type="checkbox"/> THEATER	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> 1800-1899	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMERCE	<input type="checkbox"/> EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	<input type="checkbox"/> PHILOSOPHY	<input type="checkbox"/> TRANSPORTATION	
<input type="checkbox"/> 1900-	<input type="checkbox"/> COMMUNICATIONS	<input type="checkbox"/> INDUSTRY	<input type="checkbox"/> POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> OTHER (SPECIFY)	
		<input type="checkbox"/> INVENTION			

Black , Social & Cultural
History

SPECIFIC DATES BUILDER/ARCHITECT

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Based on information supplied by the Digges, this house was probably built in the last quarter of the 19th century by Winter Hart. It may have, however, been standing before his acquisition of the property and could perhaps be older. Because modern materials completely mask the original structure, no structral evidence could be examined that could indicate a more definite date.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET IF NECESSARY

10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA

ACREAGE OF NOMINATED PROPERTY _____

VERBAL BOUNDARY DESCRIPTION

LIST ALL STATES AND COUNTIES FOR PROPERTIES OVERLAPPING STATE OR COUNTY BOUNDARIES

STATE

COUNTY

STATE

COUNTY

11 FORM PREPARED BY

NAME / TITLE

ORGANIZATION

DATE

Md. Commission on Afro-American History & Culture

STREET & NUMBER

TELEPHONE

20 Dean Street

269-2893

CITY OR TOWN

STATE

Annapolis, Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust
The Shaw House, 21 State Circle
Annapolis, Maryland 21401
(301) 267-1438



CREDIT TO
GEORGE W. McDANIEL

Hart-Diggs House
CH 308
Chicamuxen, Md.
Stove and mantle
GWM - ~~11176~~
11176



CREDIT TO
GEORGE W. McDANIEL

Hart - Diggs House
CH 308

Chicamuxen, Md.

Mantle

GWM - ~~477~~

11/76



CREDIT TO
GEORGE W. McDANIEL

Hart - Diggs House
CH 308

Chicamuxen, Md.

NORTHERN facade

GWM - ~~11/77~~

11/76



Hart - Diggs House

CH 308

Chicamuxen, Md

Photograph of William Jordan,
(born in slavery as
William Tubman) and father
of Rachel Diggs

Guim — 4/77



Hart - Diggs House
CH 308

Chicamuxen, Md.

Mrs. Rachel Diggs and her
son William with one of
her homemade quilts

GWM - 4/77
11/76